
Goehring Named Agriculture Commissioner

Doug Goehring was appointed ND Agriculture Commissioner by Governor John Hoeven April 6 to fill the vacancy created by Roger Johnson's resignation. Johnson left after he was elected president of the National Farmers Union this spring. Goehring will fill out the remainder of Johnson's term, which ends November 2010.

Goehring operates a 2,000 acre no-till operation currently raising corn, soybeans, spring wheat, field peas, canola, winter wheat and alfalfa. His professional affiliations have included the ND Soybean Council and Associations, ND Grain Growers Association, ND Stockmen's Association and ND Farm Bureau board of directors, among other state and national agriculture and agribusiness groups.

With his appointment as agriculture commissioner, Commissioner Goehring becomes the statutory chairman of the State Seed Commission. Goehring announced on May 7, 2009 that Bob Christman has agreed to serve in the role of Deputy Agriculture Commissioner. Christman has experience in a broad range of agricultural roles including state ASCS Director, Director of NDSU Extension Service and the past 12 years as Deputy Tax Commissioner.

Seed Commissioner Ken Bertsch commented, "I've known both gentlemen since the early 90's, and know that both take agriculture and public service seriously. Whatever the final decision regarding the seed commission chairmanship, either Doug or Bob will pay close attention to the well-being of the seed industry. I look forward to visiting with them about the various programs and services of the Seed Department, and the role of the Commission in the leadership of the Seed Department".

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